



**Hillsboro Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes**  
Regular Session

February 26, 2019 7:00 a.m.  
Outdoors In

The Hillsboro Parks and Recreation Commission met in regular session. Present were Parks and Recreation Commissioners Gwynne Pitts, Ken Phelan, Lynn Scheller, Nickole Vargas, Marilyn Helzerman, Forest Huntington, and Jaime Rodriguez; City staff Dave Miletich, Nancy Nye, Sean Morgan, Mary Loftin, Brandi Kangas, and Becky Salinas.

Commission Chair Pitts called the meeting to order.

**Citizen Communication:** None

**Minutes:**

Motion was made by Helzerman and seconded by Scheller to approve the minutes of the Regular Session on February 12, 2019 as written. The motion was approved unanimously.

**Reports/Presentations:**

**Outdoors In Presentation:**

Kangas highlighted the past, present and future of Outdoors In, indoor playground. In 2009, Kevin Smith (Parks Development Manager) attended a National Recreation and Parks Association Conference and purchased playground equipment at a huge discount. The equipment was stored in Maintenance for over a year before the idea of using the equipment to open up an indoor playground came to light. In a collaborative effort involving Parks Maintenance, Parks Projects, Recreation staff and the Parks Marketing Team, the development began in 2010. The indoor playground opened its doors on February 26, 2011. The facility is 3800 sq. ft. and includes a play structure, boulder wall, NEOS electronic game, and a classroom space with toys. Outdoors In is open seven days a week September – May and 6 days a week June – August for public play, including sensory friendly play times, fitness classes and party rentals. Since the doors opened eight years ago, there have been 95,000 visits for public play, 950 rentals and over 10,100 visits for fitness classes. Plans for the future include exploring additional opportunities for children with disabilities, public outreach welcoming all cultures in and around Hillsboro, and supporting inclusion of economically challenged community members.

**Senior Center Update:**

- Morgan reported an additional matching donation to the Endowment. A matching donation of \$10,000 from Jantorn Tufener. Completion of the match will bring the Endowment over the \$100,000 mark.
- A new intergenerational pilot program called Kitchen Table is being launched on March 18<sup>th</sup> at the Center. This idea was shared with Miller Education, and they are on board for a test run. There will be a deck of 52 conversational questions for youth to engage with seniors at the kitchen table.
- Griffin's Place hosted an adaptive recreation Valentines Dance at the Senior Center on February 23<sup>rd</sup> (moved from February 9<sup>th</sup> due to weather). The dance was open to 50 participants ages 14 and up with special needs. Concurrent with this event is a dedicated separate space for parents/caregivers to relax and enjoy tea and coffee, knowing their loved ones are having fun in a safe environment.
- The last three health inspections have all been 100%.
- Remodeling is wrapping up with finishing touches to the landscaping and an entry sign.

**SHARC Update:**

- There is a landscaping plan for the center to get some sprucing up this spring.
- The 2019 Fitness Challenge was split in two six-week waves this year. In the past, it was noted that most participants dropped out of the 12-week program around week six. Hopes are that by splitting the challenge into two waves, patrons can stay more focused on the prize six weeks at a time. Wave one had 52 participants and wave two had 47 participants.

**GFRC Update:**

- Morgan informed the commissioners that all six PSU home games will be at the Hillsboro Stadium. PSU softball and soccer are still progressing.
- Project Tree Topper is several steps closer. The draft agreement has been reviewed by staff and returned to the City attorney.
- The stadium underwent extensive improvements including painting, cleaning and installation of LED field lights.
- The lengthy process is underway to replace turf fields at both the Stadium and 53<sup>rd</sup> Avenue Park.

**After School Program Update:**

- The BLAST program has received 66 Chromebooks, 11 at each site, through donations. The Chromebooks are being used for homework, math improvement programs/games, typing programs and curriculum on basic coding skills.
- A new strategic pilot plan for after school programs will look at how we can better serve economically challenged families. Equity, resources, and growth will be evaluated.

**Community Center @ 53<sup>rd</sup> Avenue Update:** Miletich reported the project is moving along on-schedule. Selective trees at the site are being removed this week. City officials met with the architects. Mechanical and plumbing bids are due today. Safety equipment including security cameras, swipe cards, emergency pagers and red phones will be installed in the facility. This equipment has saved lives by quick response, and the facility will have the technology to back it up.

**Director/Manager Update:**

Nye reported that the Picture Hillsboro selection committee has chosen Harley Talkington's "Autumn Hints" as this year's winner of the Picture Hillsboro Purchase Award. Selected out of 70 submissions and 12 finalists, the photo of Dawson Creek will be displayed in the auditorium at Civic Center. An Arbor Day Celebration is being planned for mid – late April at Jackson Bottom Wetland Preserve. During the hour-long ceremony, the City will achieve Tree City USA status and will plant four Ginkgo Biloba saplings started from seeds of trees that survived the bombing of Hiroshima as part of Green Legacy Hiroshima.

Miletich informed the commissioners that he participated in the morning portion of the City Council Retreat focusing on equity training and goals. The search for City Manager is off and running. Miletich is asking commissioners to send him ideas on what values they are looking for in the new City Manager. In the months to come, Parks & Recreation Commission meetings will be moving to various locations. Nye will host PRC at the Walters Cultural Arts Center, and Pipher will invite commissioners to attend the Maintenance Shop to participate in the crew's morning routine. More details to come.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** None

The Executive Session was canceled.

**Information Items:**

Parks Work Session with City Council – March 5, 2019, Civic Center, 6pm  
Parks Staff Retreat - March 13, 2019, Community Senior Center, 11:30am  
Playground Workshop – March 19, 2019, Walters Cultural Arts Center, 9:00am

There being no other business, Commission Chair Pitts adjourned the meeting.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Recorder

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Chair